

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 26, 27, 29, 30, and 32-40 are pending. Claims 26, 29, 32 and 34 are independent and hereby amended.

II. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 26, 29, 32 and 34 are hereby amended, thereby obviating the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

As claims 26, 29, 32 and 34 have been amended, Applicants respectfully request the rejection to claims 27, 30, 33 and 35-40, which depend on claims 26, 29, 32 and 34, respectively, be withdrawn.

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 26, 29, 32 and 34 are hereby amended according to Examiner's proposed amendment. Thus, Applicants submit that independent claims 26, 29, 32 and 34 are patentable.

Therefore, Applicants submit that pending claims 26, 27, 29, 30, and 32-40 are patentable.


CONCLUSION

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance and request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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